

**Bloomfield Citizen.**

WEEKLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY

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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—as long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1912.

**CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS.**

Freeholder Seymour P. Gilbert has requested Town Attorney Charles F. Koehler to inform the Town Council that it is time for the council to undertake the preliminary arrangements for co-operation with the Board of Freeholders for the paving of Bloomfield avenue. It is proposed to pave the avenue through Montclair and this town in the same manner as was done within Newark city limits.

This is a matter of the utmost importance to Bloomfield in general and particularly to the property owners at the business centre of the town. Any plan agreed upon for the paving of the avenue through the Centre should take in this entire section and the business blocks adjacent to and opening into it. The condition of the streets about the Centre during the past month clearly shows that the time has arrived for the taking of progressive steps towards improving the business centre.

All property fronting on the Centre and adjacent to it is now becoming quite valuable and the owners of this property will be called upon to stand the cost of a number of first-class improvements. The time has come when a number of the old frame buildings at the Centre that have outlived their usefulness will have to be removed and replaced by modern buildings. The old buildings cannot and ought not to be expected to bring in sufficient rental to pay the taxes and the improvement assessments on the valuable land that they occupy. There is a demand for stores and offices at the Centre and the new owners want up-to-date business places and are willing to pay for them, and the Centre property owners will be forced to meet this demand. With the undertaking of a general improvement at the Centre there should be some official regulation of building lines and a uniformity in such lines established.

The crafty and selfish policy of the managers of the Bloomfield Savings Institution in disregarding the rights and interests of the other Broad street property owners by protruding the new bank building twenty-seven inches out on the public sidewalk furnishes a striking instance of what is likely to happen if other property owners on any other street at the Centre demand a special privilege like that procured by the bank managers. Conspicuousness for their new building was undoubtedly sought by the bank managers for advertising purposes, and to gain that object no consideration was given to the rights of others or the general public rights in the public sidewalk.

It is up to the present council now that a general improvement of the Centre is contemplated to take some action that will remedy the blunder made when according the special privilege to the savings bank, either by compelling the bank managers to remove that part of their structure that trespasses on public property or to legally establish a line along Broad street that will give every property owner the same building line as the bank. The building should be put back or changed so as to restore to the public the property taken from it by the bank under the form of a special privilege, which was an illegal act, and in the light of present circumstances proves that no credit is the men who engineered it and took advantage of it, or to the short sightedness of the men who granted the privilege.

The council that granted the special privilege to the bank established a bad and dangerous precedent and one that is going to cause much trouble in the future unless steps are taken now to nullify its evil effects by adopting a building line that shall put all Broad street and other Centre property owners on an equal basis. The adoption of building lines is an absolute necessity, and the sooner this action is taken the better.

While the special privilege accorded to the bank may appear to some a trifling matter, involving as it did only about fifty-six square feet of public

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JOHN SHERMAN, Vice-President. F. WILLIAM KNOX, Treasurer.  
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property, it can readily be seen to what degree public rights would be injured if other property owners in and about the Centre should demand the same privilege that was accorded to the bank. From the beginning of Broad street to the bank lot there is seventy-five feet and north from the bank lot to the junction of Broad and Franklin streets there is 475 feet, or a total of 550 feet. To give all of that fronting a proportionate amount of property that was given to the bank to maintain the same width of sidewalk as in front of the bank building, it would make a total of about 1,700 square feet of public property given away right in the business centre, where all the street and sidewalk room that can possibly be obtained is needed.

There is none too much room now on the sidewalks at the Centre and any curtailment of the sidewalk space is bad policy. The argument in defence of the bank's action to the effect that the building erected was an ornament to the Centre is a matter of opinion only and carries no weight. Neither was the special privilege justified by the character of the business that was to be carried on in the building.

**Winter Play Ground.**

Pupils of the Glen Ridge School and children living near that point have found facilities for additional sports on the athletic field in connection with the school. More than fifty children were using the grounds Thursday. Skating and coasting were the sports in which they were participating.

The entire baseball diamond and the fielders' territory was a smooth surface of ice. Skating was restricted to that area and to the running track. The track was used as a speedway in which races were held.

**Post Installation.**

Post Commander Charles P. Nevius of Marcus L. Ward Post No. 88, G. A. R., installed the officers of William S. Pierson Post No. 40 Wednesday night. Those installed were: George S. Sammis, post commander; David Smith, S. C. V.; Charles S. Underwood, J. V. C.; George M. Cadmus, adjutant; Nathan Russell, Q. M.; Levi D. Sheets, surgeon; Theodore Cadmus, chaplain; John M. Baneroff, O. D.; George J. Schmidt, O. G.; Robert Dodd, sergeant.

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**Glen Ridge Notes.**

Miss Margaret Wood of Hamilton returned Sunday to Smith College.

The entertainment committee of the Glen Ridge Club gave a card party in the club hall Tuesday night. Bridge and 600 were played.

Miss Hilda Gillette, who has been the guest of Mrs. E. A. Freeman of Ridgewood avenue, has returned to her home in Baltimore.

The department of French literature of the Woman's Club met Tuesday at the residence of Mrs. Lester Wallace in Douglas road.

A masquerade for the benefit of the Homoeopathic Hospital of Essex County was held Tuesday evening at the residence of Mrs. A. R. Pierson in Douglas road.

Miss Gertrude Hinrichs has returned to Bryn Mawr College, after spending several weeks at her home in Douglas road.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Chapman have issued cards for a reception to be held at their residence in Ridgewood avenue January 18.

Mrs. Francis Parkman of Hamilton road assisted at a bridge given at the home of her mother, Mrs. W. S. Neiss 454 West 144th street, New York, yesterday afternoon.

Miss Louise Smith of New Brunswick is the guest of Mrs. G. M. Sangster of Hillside avenue.

Mrs. H. R. Norris of Ridgewood avenue, who has been spending several weeks in Atlantic City, has returned. The Wednesday Five Hundred Club met at the residence of Mrs. F. D. Potter in Wildwood terrace.

Mrs. J. W. Stewart of Ridgewood avenue will be one of the patronesses at a benefit performance of the New York city branch of the National Plant, Flower and Fruit Guild to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Monday afternoon, January 18.

Mrs. Andrew Le Massena and Miss Marguerite Le Massena gave one of a series of informal bridge parties at their home yesterday afternoon.

The department of nature study of the Woman's Club of Glen Ridge met Wednesday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. W. B. Colson, 277 Ridgewood avenue. The subject was "First Aid to the Injured—Trees."

Mrs. T. W. Langstroth of Windsor place entertained the Readers' Five Hundred Club at her home Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Harold S. Bradford of Ridgewood avenue was informally "at home" Tuesday afternoon from 4 to 6.

The department of music study of the Woman's Club of Glen Ridge met Thursday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. A. R. Pierson of Douglas road. Mrs. John Fowler Trow gave the second lecture of her course on "Well-known Operas." Her subject was "Faust," by Gounod, and "Carmen," by Bizet. There were vocal solos.

Many young people attended the masquerade dance given Tuesday night at the residence of Mrs. A. R. Pierson of Douglas road, for the benefit of the Homoeopathic Hospital of Essex County.

Those from Glen Ridge who attended the reception and dinner of the Society for the Union of Missions, home and foreign, in United States and Canada, held at Delmonico's Manhattan, Tuesday night, were: Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Hall Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Birdseye, Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Z. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Mead and Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Hicks.

For immediate relief from corns, bunions or other feet troubles go to Dr. C. J. Neff, Surgeon, Chiropractor, room No. 3, Trust Company building. —Adv.

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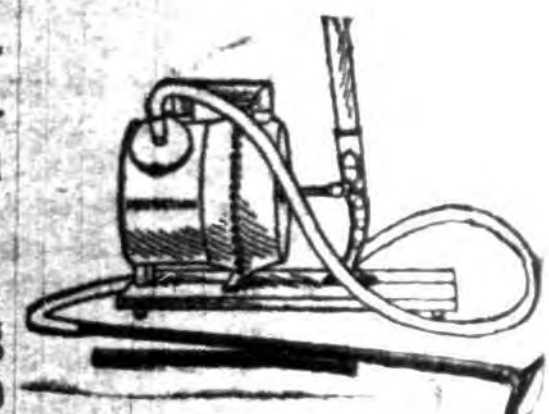
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